

May 21, 1999

DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (HFA-305)

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

5630 FISHERS LANE ROOM 1061

ROCKVILLE, MD 20857-0003 3713 '99 MAY 28 A9:07

RE: DOCKET NO. 98N-1265

To the FDA:

I live in a city of about 100,000 souls and only recently learned of a Pharmacy here that could prepare a hormone replacement cream for me. It was VERY expensive and my insurance wouldn't cover it because it couldn't be patented (They would cover Premarin, but I couldn't take it because of the side effects). Recently my doctor told me about the Women's International Pharmacy where I'm able to buy the therapy creams I need for a reasonable \$10/month! Please, please, please don't interfere. Both my doctor and I trust them and are grateful for the service they provide.

I send this letter as a consumer of health care services to register my concern and disapproval of the Memorandum of Understanding as published by the FDA on January 21, 1999.

In its present form, the MOU, as well as the Compounding Section 503A of the Modernization Act, severely restricts the rights of the physicians and patients to obtain healthcare products from the provider of their choice. It also infringes on the rights of compounding pharmacists to serve the public's medical needs. As a healthcare consumer there should be no restrictions to the delivery of compounded medication prescribed for me, regardless of where I live or travel. The MOU must be amended!!!

The FDA is an agency of the U.S. Government that purports to be the "watchdog" for consumer safety. THIS IS NOT A SAFETY ISSUE!! As a governmental agency, the FDA also has a responsibility to be accountable to the people. Once again, the MOU must be amended!!

Thank you,



Emily Taylor

120 North Whitcomb

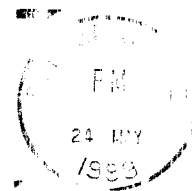
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